

Thursday, November 9, 1950

DUXBURY CLIPPER



Memories of Yesterday



Duxbury was different around the turn of the century. We hardly recognized Hall's Corner from a faded photograph. It was not the shopping center it is today.

There was, however, a flourishing business section around the site of the Cable House. On the first floor of the present Duxbury Rural and Historical Society there was a meat market on one side and a grocery store on the other. The meat market had earlier been a plumbing establishment. Across the street in a house on Cove St. Joe Neptune had as early as 1891 operated a barber shop. As early as 1901 Tony Lucas ran another barber shop in a house near the Cable Office. Like many of the dwellings in the area, his house has since been moved. One was the building where Arthur Sprague had his plumbing shop. (During World War I this building was used as a Red Cross Center).

You get an idea how complicated history can be when you try to trace the peregrinations of even part of one building. Last Friday we chatted with Mrs. Joseph Bolton in her living room. One end of this living room was once a part of a structure that was situated behind the Cable Office until it was moved away during World War I. Mrs. Bolton can remember when this part of her living room served successively as a licensed liquor store, a Chinese laundry (remember Charley Fong?), a barber shop (one of Joe Neptune's later shops) and a fruit store.

Old-timers can remember when there was a bank in the Telegraph Office and when Currier's Ice Cream parlor (later to become a First National Store) was a tinsmith's shop run by a plumber named Campbell. This shop was across from the Cable Office next to the Rural and Historical Society. And only a dozen odd years ago there was a variety store adjoining the Cable Office.

By the way, what ever happened to Joe Neptune and Tony Lucas?

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